

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 SAM-01 NEAE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

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P R 231620Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3704

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, MR, SS, OAU

SUBJECT: SAHARA: OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE STATEMENT

1. LOCAL PRESS JAN 23 CARRIED ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE (APS) REPORT FROM LOURENCO MARQUES ON 26TH SESSION OF OAU'S LIBERATION COMMITTEE. ACCORDING APS, COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED REPORT FROM ITS SECRETARY GENERAL WHICH MADE FOLLOWING POINTS CONCERNING SAHARA:

A. "POLITICAL SITUATION IN THIS COLONY HAS BECOME SO COMPLICATED SINCE JUNE, 1975 -- DATE OF LAST SESSION -- THAT TWO STATES NEIGHBORING THIS COLONY FIND THEMSELVES ENGAGED IN WAR WITH NATIONALISTS OF THIS TERRITORY."

B. ICJ FOUND THAT, "IF THERE WERE TIES OF ALLEGIANCE TO WESTERN SAHARA AND MOROCCAN" MAURITANIAN ENSEMBLE, THESE DID NOT CONSTITUTE TIES OF SOVEREIGNTY. THESE TIES OF ALLEGIANCE WERE NOT OF SORT THAT WOULD AFFECT

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PRINCIPLE OF SELF DETERMINATION IN DECOLONIZATION

OF WESTERN SAHARA."

C. UN FACT-FINDING MISSION, WHICH VISITED REGION IN MAY, 1975, HAD NOTED "IMPORTANCE OF ACCELERATING PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION IN THIS TERRITORY IN CONFORMITY WITH RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UN."

D. AFRICAN RESOLUTION (APS'S TERM) ADOPTED BY 30TH UNGA HAD "ASKED SPAIN, AS ADMINISTERING POWER AND IN CONFORMITY WITH OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS OF UN FACT-FINDING MISSION AND ACCORDING TO ADVISORY OPINION ON ICJ, TO TAKE IMMEDIATELY ALL NECESSARY MEASURES IN CONSULTATION WITH ALL SAHRAOUIS WITH ORIGINS IN THIS TERRITORY SO THAT THEY MIGHT EXERCISE FREELY AND FULLY UNDER SUPERVISION OF UN INALIENABLE RIGHT OF SELF DETERMINATION."

2. COMMENT: LANGUAGE OF REPORT ECHOES MANY ALGERIAN THEMES ON SAHRA. IT SEEMS TO COMMIT LIBERATION COMMITTEE STRONGLY TO SAHAN SELF DETERMINATION AND TO MOVE WELL BEYOND PREVIOUS OAU PRONOUNCEMENTS ON SUBJECT.

3. APS MAY WELL HAVE MISREPRESENTED UNANIMITY OF AFRICAN VIEWS ON REPORT. (IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW MOROCCANS COULD HAVE SUPPORTED IT.) IT ALSO MAY BE THAT "UNANIMOUS" ADOPTION MAY HAVE BEEN RESULT OF SOME SORT OF ALGERIAN STEAMROLLER TACTIC.

4. WE NOTE THAT 26TH SESSION APPARENTLY PRESIDED OVER BY EGYPT AND GUINEA-BISSAU AND TANZANIA SERVING RESPECTIVELY AS FIRST AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS AND ZAIRE AS RAPPORTEUR. WE FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT EGYPT AND ZAIRE WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED SUCH SAHARAN LANGUAGE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DEPARTMENT'S AND EMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES' COMMENTS ON FOREGOING. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES' PREVIOUS REPORTING ON HOW LIBERATION COMMITTEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS TREATING SAHARA ISSUE.PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ALGIER00168
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760026-0840
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760130/aaaaazmx.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAHARA: OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE STATEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, MR, SS, OAU
To: STATE LOURENCO MARQUES
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006